

DELTA CRL ENHANCEMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for producing an enhanced CRL. In response to a request containing an identifier of the most recently owned CRL stored by the requester, a certificate authority generates a CRL spanning from the most recently owned CRL to the current CRL. This CRL is formatted as a delta CRL and transmitted as a reply to the requester. This has the advantage of not requiring transmission of the full CRL even though more than one generation of CRL has occurred since the most recently owned CRL by the requester.